

2010
COOPERATIVE
INITIAL ATTACK
ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN
BETWEEN:

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT:**

- NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT, Susanville, California.
- WINNEMUCCA DISTRICT, Winnemucca, Nevada.
- LAKEVIEW DISTRICT, Lakeview, Oregon.
- BURNS DISTRICT, Hines, Oregon.
- VALE DISTRICT, Vale, Oregon.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE:

- SHELDON-HART MOUNTAIN NWR, Lakeview, Oregon.
- MALHEUR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, Princeton, Oregon.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE:
FOREST SERVICE:**

- FREMONT-WINEMA NATIONAL FORESTS, Lakeview, Oregon.
- MODOC NATIONAL FOREST, Alturas, California.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY:

- KLAMATH-LAKE DISTRICT, Lakeview, Oregon.

INTRODUCTION

This Annual Operating Plan (AOP) was designed to supplement current plans and agreements in effect:

- National Interagency Agreement between the Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, and Fish and Wildlife Service) and the Department of Agriculture (Forest Service) dated 2010.
- Regional Agreement between California Region (R-5) and the Northwest Region (R-6).
- Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement Between United States Department Interior; Bureau of Land Management, Nevada; National Park Service, Pacific West Region; and Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Region (#102319J045); Bureau of Indian Affairs, Phoenix Area Office; United States Department of Agriculture; Forest Service, Region 4 and Region 5 (R4#22-CA-99-032).
- 2009 Master Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement (Pacific Northwest Region).

This AOP supersedes the following:

- AOP for Incident Management between Winnemucca District, BLM and Sheldon-Hart Mountain Refuges, FWS dated 1991.
- Interagency Agreement between Sheldon-Hart Mountain Refuges, FWS and Lakeview Area, BLM dated 1997.
- MOU - Mutual Dispatch Procedure between Fremont N.F. and Modoc N.F. dated 1981.
- AOP for Incident Management between Susanville District, BLM and Sheldon-Hart Mountain Refuges, FWS dated 1994.

PURPOSE

To improve efficiencies and effectiveness by facilitating the exchange of information, personnel, equipment; aircraft, supplies, and services among the cooperating agencies.

OBJECTIVE

To provide a pre-approved system to coordinate efforts and exchange or utilize resources for the prevention, detection, and suppression of wildfires, fuels management, and cooperative projects for resource protection in and adjacent to areas of responsibility, and to limit duplication and improve efficiency and effectiveness.

PREPAREDNESS

The Parties to this AOP shall be distinguished as follows:

Jurisdictional Agency - The Agency that has overall land and resource management and/or protection responsibility as provided by federal or state law.

Protecting Agency - The Agency providing fire management services to a given area.

Supporting Agency - An Agency providing assistance.

Host Dispatch Center - The Dispatch Center responsible for the management of communication and coordination of resources for the Jurisdictional Agency.

Protection Planning: During the fire season, local dispatch offices will share information concerning placement of crews, engines, aircraft, fixed and aerial detection, on an as needed basis.

Joint Project and Project Plans: The Parties to this AOP may jointly conduct cooperative projects, within their authority and as authorized by law, to maintain or improve their fire management services and activities. These projects may involve such activities as prescribed fire/fuels management, preparedness, fire analysis/planning, rehabilitation, training, prevention, public affairs, or other beneficial efforts. Such projects will be documented in local AOPs, or other appropriate documents. Documentation will include the objectives, role of each agency, and each agency's share of costs. Project plans may be executed by Unit Administrators of agencies party to this AOP.

Public Use Restrictions: Parties to this AOP agree to coordinate and share information to all affected neighbors, when public use restrictions are placed in effect.

Smoke Management and Prescribed Fire/Fuels Management: Parties to this AOP agree to share information concerning projects near and/or adjacent to protection boundaries. If resources are available, parties may support each other according to agency policies and agreements.

OPERATIONS

Operational procedures and guidelines will follow the Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations Guide (RED BOOK). Agency specific documentation may be required.

Closest Forces Concept: The guiding principle for dispatch of initial attack suppression resources is to use the closest available resource(s) regardless of which agency they belong to and regardless of which agency has protection responsibility.

Fire Notifications: Upon report of a fire, notification will be made to adjacent dispatch centers that may be affected. Each dispatch center will promptly notify the appropriate host dispatch

center of fires reported on or threatening lands in their Direct Protection Area (DPA). Dispatch centers will promptly inform the jurisdictional dispatch center whenever resources cross over jurisdictional boundaries to take action on fires that lie outside their DPA. All responding resources will make contact with the host dispatch center as soon as possible.

Boundary Line Fires: A boundary line fire (fires that occur within five miles of either side of a jurisdictional boundary) will be the initial attack responsibility of the protecting agencies on either side of the boundary. Dispatch centers will not assume the other dispatch center is aware of the fire or that the other dispatch center will take action. Each dispatch center shall make every effort to communicate with the other dispatch center concerning the fire and resource use.

Suppression Operations: The initial mobilization will be for twenty-four hours or less. Should there be a further need for the resource(s), the assignment must be negotiated and/or approved with the sending dispatch center, and will be covered by a resource order through appropriate dispatch channels, and will be released through the same.

Land Management Plans: All fire suppression actions taken will be consistent with the jurisdictional agency's land management plans.

Resource Advisor: The jurisdictional agency should provide a Resource Advisor to advise of any conditions that may influence suppression actions.

Fire Trespass/Investigation: Initial attack resources will preserve information and evidence pertaining to the origin and cause of the fire. Agencies shall render mutual assistance in the gathering of evidence to the fullest extent practicable. Jurisdictional agencies are responsible for the investigation and fire trespass.

Communications: All efforts should be made to contact the host dispatch center and utilize the jurisdictional agency's frequencies during the incident. Dispatch centers will communicate and confirm responding resources, command and tactical frequencies and other pertinent information for all incidents within the boundary corridors.

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

This AOP will be reviewed and signed bi-annually.

Nancy Haug District Manager Northern California District BLM	Gene Seidlitz District Manager Winnemucca District BLM
<i>for</i> <i>Brendan Cain</i> Kenny McDanniel District Manager <i>6-22-10</i> Burns District BLM	Donald Gonzalez District Manager Vale District BLM
Carol Benkosky District Manager Lakeview District BLM	Paul Steblein Project Leader Sheldon-Hart Mountain Refuges
Robert G. Trujillo Forest Supervisor Modoc National Forest	Greg Pittman District Forester Klamath-Lake District, ODF
Fred Way Forest Supervisor Fremont-Winema National Forests	